



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/563,385	01/05/2006	Jun Li	PU030023	3002

24498 7590 01/04/2007
THOMSON LICENSING INC.
PATENT OPERATIONS
PO BOX 5312
PRINCETON, NJ 08543-5312

EXAMINER

BRANDT, CHRISTOPHER M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2617

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/04/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/563,385	Applicant(s) LI ET AL.	
	Examiner Christopher M. Brandt	Art Unit 2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 January 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This action is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on October 30, 2006. **Claims 1-12** are still pending in the present application. **This action is made FINAL.**

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed October 30, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Hunt et al. (hereinafter Hunt) does disclose a communication link between the macro cell 102 and the pico cells 1006 when the mobile station attempts to access the micro cell (paragraphs 28-30, read as the macro cell BS 104 has direct links to the pico cell base stations 108 included within the umbrella macro cell 102, and routes data to and from whichever is appropriate for current communications in a manner which is transparent to the network. In addition, when there is a data packet to be transmitted to the user (i.e. attempting to access the micro cell), the macro cell 102 routes the data to the identified pico cell 106. Moreover, the macro cell BS 104 may also instruct the chosen pico cell BS 108 to vary transmission parameters (such as data rate, transmission power) to modify the quality of the chosen link).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-6, 8-11 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by **Hunt et al. (US PG PUB 2003/0013452 A1)**.

Consider **claims 1**. Hunt clearly show and disclose a method for achieving cellular radio communication system, which comprises a plurality of pico cells 106 (figure 2) and an umbrella macro cell 102 (figure 2). The pico cell 102 is capable of voice telephony and data communications with a Mobile Station 110 (figure 2) using a sub-channel 212 (figure 2). In addition, the pico cells 106 pass data across a sub-channel 214 (figure 2) to a terminal 110 (figure 2) dedicated for higher data rates. Moreover, there is a communication channel between the secondary station and a primary station, which comprises control and data sub-channels for the respective transmission of control information and user data. This communication channel also provides a means for a data sub-channel between the secondary station and controlling primary station for the pico cell. The macro cell BS 104 has direct links (i.e. third wireless channel) to the pico cell base stations 108 included within the umbrella macro cell 102, and routes data to and from whichever is appropriate for current communications in a manner which is transparent to the network. In addition, when there is a data packet to be transmitted to the user (i.e. attempting to access the micro cell), the macro cell 102 routes the data to the identified pico cell 106. Moreover, the macro cell BS 104 may also instruct the chosen pico cell BS 108 to vary transmission parameters (such as data rate, transmission power) to modify the quality of the chosen link (abstract, paragraphs 4-5, 10, 23, 28-30, read as method for achieving wireless communications in a network having at least one macro cell for communicating both voice and data with a mobile communications device across a first wireless link and, at least one micro cell, with a smaller coverage area and higher capacity per user than the macro cell, for communicating data with the mobile communications device across a second wireless communication link, the method comprising the steps of: communicating signaling information between the one micro

cell and the one macro cell via a third wireless channel in response to access of the micro cell by the mobile communications device; and controlling the operation of the micro cell responsive to the signaling information).

Consider **claim 6**. Hunt clearly show and disclose a system for achieving cellular radio communication system, which comprises a plurality of pico cells 106 (figure 2) and an umbrella macro cell 102 (figure 2). The pico cell 102 is capable of voice telephony and data communications with a Mobile Station 110 (figure 2) using a sub-channel 212 (figure 2). In addition, the pico cells 106 pass data across a sub-channel 214 (figure 2) to a terminal 110 (figure 2) dedicated for higher data rates. There is a BS 104 (figure 2, read as control element), which controls a macro cell 102. Moreover, there is a communication channel between the secondary station and a primary station, which comprises control and data sub-channels for the respective transmission of control information and user data. This communication channel also provides a means for a data sub-channel between the secondary station and controlling primary station for the pico cell. The macro cell BS 104 has direct links (i.e. third wireless channel) to the pico cell base stations 108 included within the umbrella macro cell 102, and routes data to and from whichever is appropriate for current communications in a manner which is transparent to the network. In addition, when there is a data packet to be transmitted to the user (i.e. attempting to access the micro cell), the macro cell 102 routes the data to the identified pico cell 106. Moreover, the macro cell BS 104 may also instruct the chosen pico cell BS 108 to vary transmission parameters (such as data rate, transmission power) to modify the quality of the chosen link (abstract, paragraphs 4-5, 10, 23, 28-30, read as a wireless communications system, comprising: at least one macro cell for communicating both voice and data with a mobile

Art Unit: 2617

communications device across a first wireless link at least one micro cell having a smaller coverage and higher capacity per user than the macro cell for communicating data with the mobile communications device across a second wireless communication link; a control element for controlling at least the operation of the macro cell; a third wireless channel for communicating signaling information between the one micro cell and the one macro cell in response to access of the micro cell by the mobile communications device to enable the controller to also control the operation of the macro cell).

Consider **claim 2 and as applied to claim 1**. Hunt teaches the method wherein step of controlling the micro cell includes the step of managing access to the micro cell by the mobile communications device (figure 2, paragraph 25, 29, 30).

Consider **claim 3 and as applied to claim 1**. Hunt teaches the method wherein the step of communicating signaling information via the third wireless channel includes the step communicating signaling information from each mobile communications device separately (figure 2, paragraphs 23, 28-30).

Consider **claim 4 and as applied to claim 1**. Hunt teaches the method wherein the step of communicating signaling information via the third wireless channel includes the step of encapsulating signaling information from a plurality of mobile communication devices in a common packet (figure 2, paragraph 23, 28-30).

Consider **claim 5 and as applied to claim 1**. Hunt teaches the method further comprising the step of assigning to the mobile communication device codes and power settings to enable the mobile communication device to communicate with macro cell and micro cell simultaneously (figure 2, paragraphs 22-23 and 26).

Consider **claim 8 and as applied to claim 6**. Hunt teaches the system wherein the control element manages access to the micro cell by the mobile communications device (figure 2, paragraphs 25, 29, 30).

Consider **claim 9 and as applied to claim 6**. Hunt teaches the system wherein each micro cells separately communicates signaling information from each mobile communication device across the third wireless channel (figure 2, paragraphs 23, 28-30).

Consider **claim 10 and as applied to claim 6**. Hunt teaches the system wherein the signaling information of each of a plurality of micro cells is encapsulated into a common packet for communication across the third wireless communication channel (figure 2, paragraphs 23, 28-30).

Consider **claim 11 and as applied to claim 6**. Hunt teaches the system wherein the control element assigns to the mobile communication device codes and power settings to enable the mobile communication device to communicate with macro cell and micro cell simultaneously (figure 2, paragraphs 22-23, 26).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any

Art Unit: 2617

evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hunt et al. (US PG PUB 2003/0013452 A1)** in view of **Westerberg (US Patent 6,058302)**.

Consider **claim 7 and as applied to claim 6**. Hunt clearly show and disclose the claimed invention except wherein the control element comprises a Serving General Packet Radio Service Node (SGSN).

However, Westerberg teaches a system where the public (GPRS) network 100 (figure 2) includes a mobile services switching center/serving GPRS support node (MSC/SGSN) 102 (figure 2), which controls calls to and from other telephony and data communications systems (column 4 lines 27-47, read as the system wherein the control element comprises a Serving General Packet Radio Service Node (SGSN)).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the teachings of Westerberg into the system of Hunt in order to provide stability during high load in large networks.

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hunt et al.** (US PGPUB 2003/0013452 A1) in view of **Westerberg** (US Patent 6,058302) and further in view of **Horneman et al.** (US Patent 6,959,048 A1).

Consider **claim 12** and as applied to **claim 7**. Hunt and Westerberg teach the claimed invention except wherein the control element further comprises: a Gateway General Packet Radio Service Serving Node (GGSN); and an Internet Protocol tunnel for linking the GGSN to an Internet Protocol gateway.

However, Horneman (hereinafter Horneman) clearly show and disclose a gateway node (GGSN = Gateway GPRS Support Node) 144 (figure 1B). This gateway node 144 connects to the packet transmission network 142 (figure 1B) and a public packet transmission network 146 (figure 1B). In addition, an Internet protocol can be used at the interface (column 5 line 62 – column 6 line 5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the teachings of Horneman into the systems of Hunt and Westerberg in order to optimize “bursty” data services such as wireless Internet/intranet and multimedia services.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any response to this Office Action should be **faxed to (571) 273-8300 or mailed to:**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to

Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

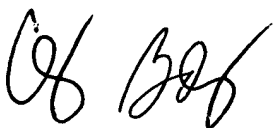
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher M. Brandt whose telephone number is (571) 270-1098. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30a.m. to 5p.m..

Art Unit: 2617

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nick Corsaro can be reached on (571) 272-7876. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

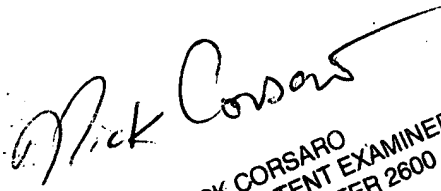
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/customer service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.


Christopher M. Brandt

C.M.B./cmb

December 22, 2006


NICK CORSARO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600